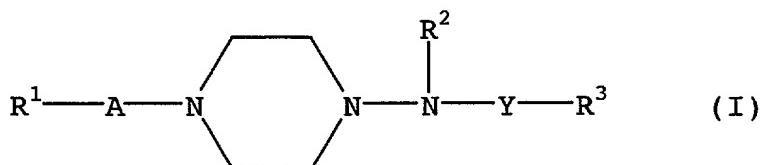


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a method of specifically potentiating an N-type Ca^{2+} channel activity, which includes administering, to a subject, a compound of the following formula (I):



wherein R^1 is lower alkyl, aryl, ar(lower)alkoxy or a heterocyclic group, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, R^2 is hydrogen atom or lower alkyl, R^3 is cyclo(lower)alkyl, aryl or ar(lower)alkyl, the above groups being optionally substituted by halogen, A is $-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{SO}_2-$ or lower alkylene, and Y shows $-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{SO}_2-$ or $-\text{CONH}-$ (compound(I)), a salt thereof, a prodrug thereof or a solvate thereof; a method for the prophylaxis or treatment of brain disorders such as dementia and amnesia, which includes such administration; and a screening method particularly useful for screening a compound having a similar effect as compound (I).